

Not Red

(1)

An Egg

on the

Arctia Spinosa.

PRIDEAU

To: Thomas Gimbal Prideau
Charleston S.C. 1803

Not Red





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An
Inaugural Essay,
For
the Degree,
of
Doctor of Medicine,
Submitted
To the Examinations
of
John McDowall L.L.D. Provost,
The
Trustees and Medical Professors
of the
University of Pennsylvania,
By
Thomas Trimball Pringlean
&
Charleston South Carolina.

No. 1

PRINGLEAN

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An Experimental Essay &c.

Perhaps no Country afford a greater opportunity of increasing the Materia Medica than the United States of America; their indigenous vegetables are extremely numerous and to the lovers of natural history, the investigation must afford both amusement and instruction independent of the benefits which will result to Mankind at large. But few comparatively of these many useful plants have been noticed, the properties of others again are but partially known and even the little knowledge of ^{most of} them is confined to a particular village or district; among the latter is the *Acacia Spinosa*, which I have chosen for the subject of the following pages.

The
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Species

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The Botanical description of the
Acacia is here taken from Michaux.

Pentameria.

Pentagynia.

Acacia.

Involute: umbella - Cal. 5 dentatus Su-
perius - Corolla: 5 petala - Baccas 5 Stamina.

Species

Spinosa.

Caule arborescente foliisque spinosis:
foliis duplicato-pinnatis; foliolis leviter
serratis. panicula ramosissima umbellis
numerosis -

Habitat in Sylvis fertilibus Carolinae
inferioris & Missouribus -

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The Arabia Spinosa has a very extensive range stretching from Lat. 32° to 57° , is to be found in rich soil and ~~on the~~ principally on the banks of rivers and swamps - The vulgar and vulgar names of it in the Southern States are Prickly Ash, Subtlesack ~~as~~ and in the Middle States also Prickly Ash, Devil Club, no name ~~as~~ - In consequence of the common name Prickly Ash being also given to the *Xanthoxylon fragrifolium*, this and the Arabia have often been mistaken for each other, the error also arises from the similarity general appearance ~~as~~ of the two plants, but by the botanist they are immediately distinguished. The Spines of the Arabia S. are much more numerous than those of the *Xanthoxylon* f. It grows to the height of from 8 to 20 feet, does not send off branches until near its Summit

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summit and then in clusters. the root-
run at right angles from the Caudex
extending three or four feet superficially
and in an horizontal direction -

Chemical Analysis.

To an infusion of the inner bark
of the root, I added a little alkali,
immediately a coagulation took place,
the alkali uniting to the water and
separating from it the gummy mat-
ter which was held in solution. The
fluid was then filtered, to some of
which water was added and no change
took place or no sediment was precipi-
tated which would have occurred had any
resinous particles been held in the solution.

Upon evaporating a decoction made
from the inner bark of the root, I
obtained a considerable quantity of a
dark extract of an agreeable odour and
pleasant taste - On a small quantity

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of this extract I poured some alcohol
and suffered it to remain for twenty
four hours, at the end of which time
no other change had taken place than
the alcohol having extracted a little of
the coloring matter, the extract remained
in the same state as when placed in the
alcohol -

To another portion of the extract equal
in weight to the former I added
as much water as I had some alcohol
in the preceding experiment, in a few
minutes the whole of the extract was
dissolved leaving no sediment. Upon
adding alcohol to the solution the
gummy matter was immediately se-
parated and floated in the mixture.

From these experiments it appears
that in the root very little if any re-
sinous matter resides, and a considerable
quantity of a gummy substance -

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It inspires very little of the astringent
or bitter principle, for upon adding either
to the infusion or decoction, the opy Sulphat
or even on the acetate of lead, no change
in the colour was produced, neither was
any precipitate evident.

§. Effects on the Human System.

Having prepared a saturated infusion of
the inner bark of the root of the Cinchona,
two hours after a slight breakfast I took
a wineglassful. this produced no other ef-
fect than a slight nausea with some
little increase and fullness of the pulses,
in 10 minutes after taking the first glassful
I took another which induced great nausea
and slight vomiting with an increase of
saliva and considerable sensation of acidity
about the fauces, the pulses still conti-
nued to rise and became more full and
soft, great heat of skin and espines, perspi-
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perspiration now came on - in 10 minutes
after I took another glassful which in-
duced free vomiting, skin warm, bones
ached and continuance of perspira-
tion. In 10 minutes after the last glassful
I again took another and vomited very
freely; to assist the operation I now drank
plentifully of warm water and completely
evacuated the contents of my stomach
at the same time throwing up some
bile - The nausea induced by the me-
dicine for continued for several hours
but only slightly - At 10 o'clock one hour
after taking the first dose it began to
operate as a cathartic and for some
time operated freely -

The pulse was most remarkably af-
fected, at first highly stimulated and after
a few minutes much depressed - My
friends Messrs Lane & Mrs Bide - Richard Shubrick
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attended to ~~them~~ during the phre-
nents -

at the time I took the first dose
my pulse beat 84 strokes in a minute -

1 minute 8. 10. 12. 20. 24. 30. 36. 40. 48. 50. 60
2 strokes 66 68 72 108 90 92 88 84 78 75 76.

65. 70. 75. at which it continued until
76. 78. 80.

12 O'clock and then gradually rose to 84 -

11.11.11

11.11.11
2.11.11

Two hours after a slight breakfast I took
9x of the powdered bark of the root of
the Analepis - in 8 minutes after taking it
I experienced great nausea, increased
secretion of saliva and acidity about
the fauces: vomiting then came on at-
tended with heat of skin and copious pers-
piration - The vomiting continued for half
an hour but the nausea continued slightly
for two hours - During the operation I
felt some headache, burning of the eyes
and shivering, which went off in a few
minutes -

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The effects on the pulse were not so great in this as in the preceding experiment, probably owing to the smallness of the quantity, and the almost immediate onset induced - at the time of taking the pulse my pulse beat 84 strokes in a minute in 5 minutes it rose to 96 strokes - 2 minutes at which it continued for 20 minutes and then fell to 80,

in minutes 20 30 40 50
pulse 84 78 70 80

Three hours after breakfast I took $\frac{j}{ss}$ of the water prepared by evaporating the decoction of the root of the Asclepias - this produced some nausea and increased of pulse in 15 minutes after - I again took $\frac{ss}{iv}$ which in a short time induced considerable nausea and slight emesis - at a quarter before 12 o'clock it began to operate as a cathartic and continued operating for three hours - In a few minutes after

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after taking the medicine the pulse
rose 15 strokes above the common standard,
it continued at this for 20 minutes and
then fell 10 strokes below the natural
at which it continued half an hour
& then rose to the common standard.

28th.

h.

Dr. Richard Smith & myself ^{my friend & one} ^{of} ^{the} ^{most} ^{valuable} ^{of}
^{medicines} the fine powder of the root of the Analepis
in a few seconds powerful erubescence effects
were induced and the discharge from the
nares was very considerable, and continued
for several hours, - the stimulatory
properties were very considerable; the powder
when employed in this way will be found
a most valuable accession to the class of
Erbines, being one of the most powerful
and pursued with the greatest care -

The following case communicated
to me by my friend Mr. James Linnear
McBride, will completely establish the

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emetic properties of the Analeis I. and likewise tend to show how far emetics may prove serviceable as remedies for the bite of Poisonous Reptiles.

In August & September 1794, Mr. Low Scott aged 50 years of Williamsburgh County, Georgia while attending to his Slaves at work in an indigo field was bitten by a rattlesnake (*Crotalus durissus*) a little above the inner ankle - recollecting that he had heard of the Analeis being a celebrated Indian remedy for the bite of Serpents he ordered a decoction of the root to be procured as soon as possible and to be poured into him until he should vomit freely before the decoction could be procured he was deprived of speech, his respiration difficult, & he to all appearance in the agonies of death; it was not long however before his privations were complied with, and vomiting being induced gave him

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inspiring relief, Still he made signs for
a continuance of the remedy, which I per-
son freely, as an emetic, attracted a sud-
den and in forty eight hours from the
time he was bitten by the use of the me-
dicine he was left in a convalescent
state from which he soon recovered.

In June 1801 Mr. Daniel Carter of
Claremont County, So. Carolina - was bitten
by a rattlesnake, in a short time he was
thrown into a situation similar to that
of Mr. Jeff, but by having immediate re-
course to the same remedy, he experienced
in a short time similar good effects.

A watery infusion of the inner bark
a root of the Qualea is very generally
employed as a remedy for the intermit-
tents of the negroes in the middle and
lower country of So. Carolina. From the
certainty of its operation and facility
with which it can be procured it is
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Of an infusion ~~from~~ ^{for} the root - which macerated 12 hours ~~the~~ ^{the} juice very decidedly emetic Cathartic and diaphoretic, and being given previous to the bark renders it more certain in its operation

When given exhibited with a view to its emetic operation the infusion in doses of a wineglassful given every 10 or 15 minutes will be found the most certain - on the borders of the root bark of the root in doses of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 - In many cases it may be substituted for Ipecac, it affords equal stimulus to the stomach, is mild in its operation & by far more pleasant to take than any emetic we are acquainted with - The chief operation of the extract is Cathartic and if given with that view in doses of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 will not doubt be found very beneficial -

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of necessity not of choice; the subject is
very interesting and had both time and
opportunity offered I should have made
a further investigation, as ~~the subject~~ is
I must now submit it to the examina-
tion and rely upon the candour of the
Professors for their decision - Of them I
must request the acceptance of my un-
feigned thanks, and sincere acknowledgements
for the improvement & instruction I have
received at their hands. I set an inestima-
ble value on their labours and trust they
will always enjoy that sweetest of all re-
wards, the applause of their own hearts.

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